

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Branch Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Virginia Fire and Marine Insurance Company

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1015 East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: (in cit.)	CODE 760
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Branch Patteson

STREET AND NUMBER:
1015 East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Richmond City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad and Eleventh Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey - Photo-Data

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic American Buildings Survey

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 Nineteenth Street, Northwest

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 08
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)
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DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Branch Building is a two-story structure with a four-bay front and measures 26' wide by 140' deep. It is built on a common bond brick foundation and has a cast-iron facade with side and rear walls of brick laid in common bond. The street level portion of the facade consists of a four-bay arcade composed of free-standing Corinthian columns on pedestals, supporting semicircular arches. The arcade forms a screen across a split in levels in the lower portion of the building. In the western-most bay of the arcade a flight of steps ascends to the door of the first floor, while in the other three bays steps descend to the area and to the entrance to the lower level. Behind the arcade, the arch motif is repeated in architectural features which form the front wall of the first floor and the lower level which are executed in wood, while those of the arcade itself are in cast iron. This arcade supports a full Corinthian entablature which forms the pedestal base of the second floor. The four bays of the second floor are separated by single engaged Corinthian columns with Corinthian pilasters at the edges of the facade. The engaged columns of the second floor support an engaged balustrade which forms the pedestal for the engaged columns between the bays of the third floor. The space between the third and fourth floor is also in the form of an engaged balustrade. Crowning the facade is a large, full Corinthian entablature with a relatively thin architrave and a wide frieze. The frieze is ornamented with four rosettes; the cornice features modillions, dentils and eggs and darts.

A side stair hall entered from the exterior gives access to the main office on the first floor. The first floor has been greatly altered, and no original woodwork save that of the stair hall survives. The original plan probably consisted of two main rooms, behind which was an open court separating the main block of the building from a one-story-on-high-basement structure that probably housed living quarters. The court has been enclosed, and all of this space has been converted into modern offices.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate) -

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The iron-front building at 1015 East Main Street was erected circa 1866 on the site of an earlier building that had been destroyed by fire during the evacuation of Richmond in 1865. The building was erected to house the Virginia Fire and Marine Insurance Company and served as their headquarters until 1953 when it was sold to Branch and Company. The structure is an exceptionally fine example of the post-Civil War iron-fronted commercial building. Its free-standing arcade on the street level is a most unusual and successfully handled feature.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

on the 1015 East Main Street in Richmond, Virginia, was erected circa 1866 on the site of an earlier building that had been destroyed by fire during the evacuation of Richmond in 1865. The building was erected to house the Virginia Fire and Marine Insurance Company and served as their headquarters until 1953 when it was sold to Branch and Company. The structure is an exceptionally fine example of the post-Civil War iron-fronted commercial building. Its free-standing arcade on the street level is a most unusual and successfully handled feature.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deed books and tax assessor records in Richmond City Hall.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 32 ' 14 "	77 ° 26 ' 08 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: $\frac{1}{2}$ acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
DATE: November 19, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond
STATE: Virginia
CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____
Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

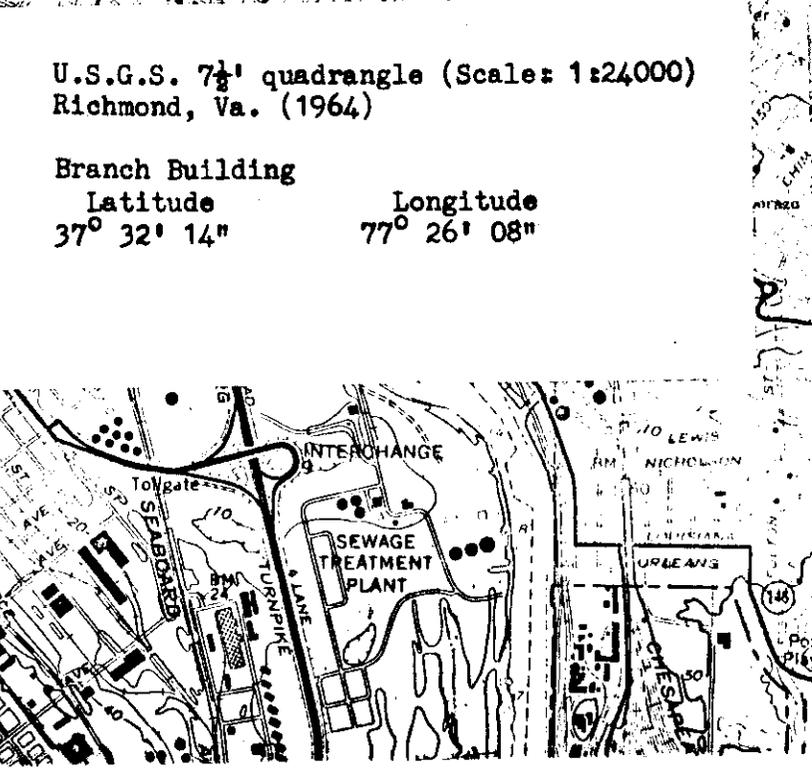
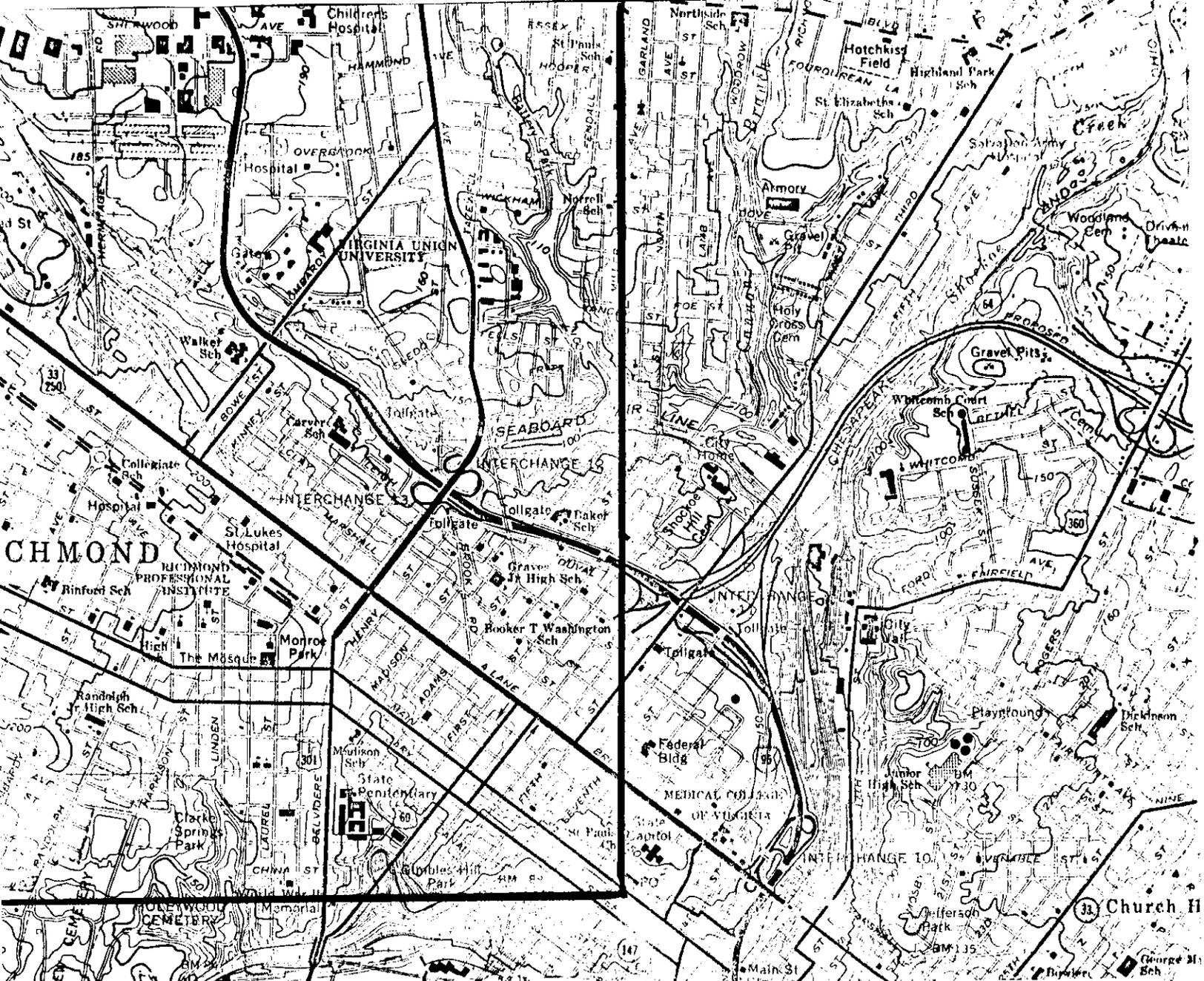
Date _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24000)
 Richmond, Va. (1964)

Branch Building

Latitude
 37° 32' 14"

Longitude
 77° 26' 08"